Page 1, please replace the Cross Reference to the Related Applications paragraph as follows:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

The present application is related to pending U.S. Patent Application 10/707,978, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "A METHOD FOR SUPPLY CHAIN COMPRESSION" having (IBM) Docket No. BUR920030197US1; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,974, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "METHOD FOR PURCHASE ORDER RESCHEDULING IN A LINEAR PROGRAM" having (IBM) Docket No. BUR92004009US1; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,977, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled " A Method for Supply Chain Decomposition" having (IBM) Docket No. BUR920040007US1; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,976, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "A METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING FOUNDRY CAPACITY" having (IBM) Docket No. BUR920030195US1; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,979, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled "A METHOD FOR CONSIDERING HIERARCHICAL PREEMPTIVE DEMAND PRIORITIES IN A SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION MODEL" having (IBM) Docket No. BUR920030198US1; U.S. Patent Application 10/707,973, filed concurrently herewith to Denton et al., entitled " Method for Simultaneously Considering Customer Commit Dates and Customer Request Dates" having (IBM) Docket No. BUR920040008US1; and U.S. Patent Application 10/708,119, filed concurrently herewith to Orzell et al., entitled "METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING PRODUCT ASSETS IN A SUPPLY CHAIN USED TO SATISFY MULTIPLE CUSTOMER DEMANDS" having Docket No. BUR920030192US1. The foregoing applications are assigned to the present assignee, and are all incorporated herein by reference.